

**Project:** Emergency Management First Responder Training Curriculum  
**Applicant:** Progressive Center for Independent Living - Year 3

**Address:** 1262 Whitehorse-Hamilton Square Road,  
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**Partners:** NJ Office of Emergency Management  
Mercer County Office of Emergency Management

**Council Funds:** \$33,540

**Match Funds:** \$12,737

**Abstract:** Continuation of project from FY-08/09 establishing curriculum, protocols and training for consumers to become trainers of first-responders in emergency response for people with DD. Emergency response is defined as typical emergencies (fire, flood, electricity outage) as well as more unconventional emergencies (disaster, etc.). PCIL's Emergency Preparedness Project (EPrep) educates and empowers people with developmental disabilities (PwDD) to be included in the emergency planning process for the safety and security of PwDD.

The project provides for systems change at local and state levels with inclusion of Special Needs, while improving effectiveness of responders. Recurring direct training from peer liaisons ensure the community, local officials and responders are aware of who is living in the community and how to plan and include PwDD in the event of an emergency. The project has collaborated with NJ Office of Emergency Management (OEM), State Police and Delta Corp to develop a special needs portion of the curriculum used for CERT training in NJ, effecting systems change

The recruitment process is ongoing, liaisons are accepted and trained year-round. This year the project has recruited three (3) additional liaisons (PwDD), who have begun the screening process. The project has educated 76 PwDD on being prepared for an emergency. Currently the project has far exceeded original expectations of 3 workshop to 14\*; providing training to 74 first responders, 170 responders and 120 service providers.

### **Deliverables**

1. establishment of emergency preparation training capability within at least two additional Centers for Independent Living in NJ
2. Provision of manual of instruction including
  - trainer's manual
  - participants manual
  - resources and materials for training (CD, DVD, PowerPoint, exercises, etc.)Assembled into a presentable and replicatable format.